

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method in a wireless communications device, comprising:
 - (a) identifying a frequency hopping pattern via measuring energy level in one or more frequency bands associated with a at least one remote short-range wireless communications network;
 - (b) based on the identified frequency hopping pattern in the at least one remote short-range wireless communications network, selecting a frequency hopping pattern for communications in a local short-range wireless communications network; and
 - (c) based on the identified frequency hopping pattern, selecting a timing for the selected frequency hopping pattern based on the measured energy level; and
 - (d) communicating the selected frequency hopping pattern and timing to the local short-range wireless communication network.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
transmitting one or more symbols according to the selected frequency hopping pattern and the selected timing.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the one or more symbols are OFDM symbols.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step (c) comprises:
identifying a low energy condition in the frequency band; and
designating a starting time for the selected frequency hopping pattern during the low energy condition.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step (c) comprises:
monitoring transmissions in a frequency band;
identifying a low energy condition in the frequency band; and

designating a starting time for the selected frequency hopping pattern during the low energy condition.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the identified frequency hopping pattern and the selected frequency hopping pattern are the same.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the selected timing provides for no collisions between the identified frequency hopping pattern and the selected frequency hopping pattern.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the identified frequency hopping pattern and the selected frequency hopping pattern are different.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the selected timing provides for minimal collisions between the identified frequency hopping pattern and the selected frequency hopping pattern.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
directing one or more remote wireless communications devices in different networks to employ the selected frequency hopping pattern.

11. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:
means for identifying a frequency hopping pattern via measuring energy level in one or more frequency bands associated with a at least one remote short-range wireless communications network;

means for selecting a frequency hopping pattern for communications in a local short-range wireless communications network based on the identified frequency hopping pattern in the at least one remote short-range wireless communications network; and

means for selecting a timing for the selected frequency hopping pattern based on the measured energy level identified frequency hopping pattern; and

means for communicating the selected frequency hopping pattern and timing to the local short-range wireless communication network.

12. (Original) The system of claim 11, further comprising:
means for transmitting one or more symbols according to the selected frequency hopping pattern and the selected timing.
13. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the one or more symbols are OFDM symbols.
14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein said means for selecting timing comprises:
means for monitoring transmissions in a frequency band;
means for identifying a low energy ~~condition~~ level in the frequency band; and
means for designating a starting time for the selected frequency hopping pattern during the low energy ~~condition~~ level.
15. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the identified frequency hopping pattern and the selected frequency hopping pattern are the same.
16. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the selected timing provides for no collisions between the identified frequency hopping pattern and the selected frequency hopping pattern.
17. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the identified frequency hopping pattern and the selected frequency hopping pattern are different.
18. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the selected timing provides for minimal collisions between the identified frequency hopping pattern and the selected frequency hopping pattern.
19. (Original) The system of claim 11, further comprising:
means for directing one or more remote wireless communications devices to employ the selected frequency hopping pattern.

20. (Currently Amended) A wireless communications device, comprising:

a carrier sensing module configured to monitor transmissions in one or more frequency bands;

a timing controller configured to transmit scan messages inquiring about neighborhood networks and frequency hopping patterns they employ and select from scan responses, a frequency hopping pattern for a local short-range wireless network based on a frequency hopping pattern of a at least one remote short-range wireless communications network detected by the carrier sensing module, ;

the timing controller further configured to transmit signals and to control one or more transmission times according to the selected frequency hopping pattern based on energy levels detected in a frequency band by the carrier sensing module; and

a transceiver, responsive to the transmit signals, configured to transmit data at the one or more data transmission times according to the selected frequency hopping pattern.

21. (Original) The wireless communications device of claim 20, wherein the transceiver is further configured to transmit the selected frequency hopping pattern to one or more devices in the local short-range wireless network.

22. (Original) The wireless communications device of claim 21, wherein the transceiver is further configured to transmit the selected frequency hopping pattern to the one or more devices in the local short-range wireless network in a beacon transmission.

23. (Currently Amended) A wireless communications device, comprising:

a carrier sensing module configured to monitor transmissions in one or more frequency bands;

a timing controller generating scan messages inquiring about neighborhood networks and frequency hopping patterns they employ and configured to control one or more transmission times according to a frequency hopping pattern based on energy levels detected in a frequency band by the carrier sensing module; and

a transceiver configured to receive the frequency hopping pattern from a device in the local short-range wireless communications network, and to transmit data at the one or more data transmission times according to the frequency hopping pattern.

24. (Original) The wireless communications device of claim 23, wherein the transceiver is further configured to receive the frequency hopping pattern in a beacon transmission.

25. (Currently Amended) A method in a wireless communications device, comprising:
generating scan messages inquiring about neighborhood networks and frequency hopping patterns they employ;

monitoring transmissions in one or more frequency bands of a plurality of channels;

based on the monitored transmissions, determining a time frequency code (TFC) of a at least one remote short-range wireless communications network;

selecting a TFC for use in a local short-range wireless communications network based on the TFC of the at least one remote wireless communications network;

distributing information regarding the selected TFC to one or more remote devices within the local short-range wireless communications network;

determining whether the wireless communications device needs to transmit data within the local short-range wireless communications network; and

monitoring one or more of the frequency bands to designate a transmission timing for the data.